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RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 0038
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0099
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Monday, 30 November 2009, 17:19
S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 VATICAN 000123
SIPDIS
EO 12958 DECL: 11/30/2034
TAGS PGOV, PREL, PHUM, KIRF, SOCI, UK, VT
SUBJECT: AMIDST CONTROVERSY, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY MEETS POPE
REF: VATICAN 113
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CLASSIFIED BY: Rafael Foley, Pol Chief. REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (S) Summary: During his recent visit to Rome and meeting with the Pope --planned before the Pope urged disaffected Anglicans to convert to Official and Public Statements Focus on Positive

2. (SBU) The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, met with Pope Benedict XVI on November 21. The meeting was planned before the Vatican r

3. (U) Speaking with Vatican Radio shortly after the meeting, Williams stressed his prior good relations with the Pope and downplayed the impc
-But Private Discussions Reveal a Deeper Rift

4. (S) Archbishop Williams was the guest of honor at a dinner on Nov. 20 hosted by the British Ambassador to the Holy See, Francis Campbell, f

5. (S) In a subsequent conversation with DCM after Williams' departure, Campbell (strictly protect) said Anglican-Vatican relations were facir
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more harshly, he has lost support among angry Anglicans. The crisis is also worrisome for England's small, mostly Irish-origin, Catholic minori

Comment

6. (S) Williams' previously planned meeting with the Pope unquestionably came at an awkward time, but was also important that it happen in ord